NOTE XXXVIII.

THREE NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS HELOTA

DESCRIBED BY

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The first of these species is very interesting as it belongs to the same section as the recently described *Helota Candezei* Rits., from Sumatra (see ante p. 199). It has been communicated to me by my friend René Oberthür who received it from Maria Basti, a christianity in British Bootang not far distant from Pedong in Sikkim and founded by the Missionaries of Monseigneur Biet.

1. *Helota Mariae*, n. sp. ♂.

Resembling *Helota serratipennis* Rits. [1]), from Burma, but of a more parallel shape, more broadly rounded and not serrate at the apex of the elytra, and having the entire prothorax (the prosternum as well as the pronotum, the anterior lateral angles included) of a dark metallic green colour; moreover the flavous elytral spots are smaller and of a different position.

Length 7 mm. — Subshining; above dark bronze, the anterior lateral angles of the pronotum included; the antennae pitchy brown, the club darker; the elytra provided with four very small flavous spots which are situated between the same striae, viz. between the 3rd and 6th, and

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1) Ann. Mus. Civ. Genova, ser. 2a, vol. X, 1891, p. 890.

surrounded with bluish black. — Underneath the head, the prosternum, and the elytral folds are dark bronze; the meso- and metasternum, the abdomen, the coxae and the basal two-thirds of the femora reddish testaceous; the apical third of the femora and the entire tibiae dark bronze, the tarsi pitchy, the claws reddish testaceous.

The head rather remotely covered with large deep punctures on the raised middle portion; towards the eyes the punctures are smaller and closer together, and towards the front margin they are still smaller and closer set.

The prothorax somewhat broader at the base than long and slightly narrowing in curved lines towards the front margin; the sides are distinctly crenulate; the front margin curved backwards, the anterior angles rounded and slightly prominent; the base deeply bisinuate, the lateral angles acute, the median lobe broadly rounded; the upper surface covered with strong punctures which become larger and very closely set towards the lateral margins; in front of the scutellum a longitudinal, nearly impunctate streak is present which is accompanied on each side of its base by a strongly punctured impression; outside from these impressions a sparsely punctate slightly raised patch may be observed. The scutellum is strongly transverse, glossy and impunctate.

The elytra parallel, broadly, almost conjointly rounded at the apex, each of them provided with ten regular striae of punctures which become larger and deeper towards the lateral margins which latter are narrowly flattened; the interstices are extremely finely punctured and become costate towards the apex especially the 3rd and 9th which extend to the apical margin.

The undersurface of the head shows in the middle very distinct punctures; those on the sides of the prosternum are larger and deeper, on the middle portion, however, smaller, the sides of the metasternum are also distinctly punctured; the middle of the metasternum shows a narrow longitudinal impression; the ventral segments are very finely but distinctly punctured; the apical one flattened in the middle, broadly rounded posteriorly, subtruncate at the tip.

The tibiae are strongly punctured, the anterior ones strongly curved, their apical half angularly dilated on the inner margin, the middle- and hind tibiae armed on their inner edge, near the apex, with a very small tooth.

Hab. Maria Basti (British Bootang). — Collection Oberthür and Leyden Museum.

2. *Helota Olliffii*, n. sp. ♂.

Allied to *Helota Boysi* Rits. 1), from Kurseong (Darjeeling), and agreeing with this species in the shape of the apices of the elytra but quite distinct by the otherwise shaped anterior tibiae.

Length 8—9 mm. — Narrow and elongate, shining; above metallic green with coppery and purple tinges; the antennae pale testaceous, the club infuscate; each elytron provided with two flavous spots, situated between the 3rd and 7th striae 2) and surrounded with purple. — Underneath reddish testaceous with the exception of the head, the lateral portions of the prosternum and the elytral epipleurae which are golden green; the legs reddish testaceous with the apex of the femora and the base of the tibiae metallic green; the tarsi brownish, the basal half of the claw-joint pale testaceous.

The head is deeply and densely punctured; on the middle portion the punctures are larger and wider apart.

The prothorax is subquadrate, narrowing but slightly in straight lines towards the front margin which is straight; the anterior angles are broadly rounded, not at all prominent; the base is deeply bisinuate, the lateral angles

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1) Notes from the Leyden Museum, vol. XVI, 1894, p. 114.

2) The posterior spot is, in some individuals, situated between the 3rd and and 8th striae.

acute. The upper surface is rather regularly densely covered with large deep punctures and shows a smooth space in front of the scutellum.

The elytra are very slightly narrowing in straight lines towards the end where they are conjointly notched at the suture; at the bottom of the notch the suture forms an acute angle or very minute tooth quite as in *Boysi*. Each elytron has ten regular rows of punctures which become larger towards the sides; the interstices become costate towards the end, especially the 3rd and 9th.

The metallic portions of the undersurface of the head as well as the lateral portions of the prosternum are covered with strong punctures; the rest of the undersurface is apparently impunctate.

♂. Anterior tibiae slightly curved and faintly notched about the middle of the inner edge; between this notch and the apex the tibia is slightly widened out; the margin of this enlargement forms a curved line, is black and ends in a sharp angle; the basal joints of the anterior tarsi are enlarged and densely fringed with colourless hairs; the tarsi of the middle- and hind legs are very slender and elongate; the posterior tibiae have a black line along the inner edge of their apical half.

Hab. Khasia Hills (Assam). — Zoological Museum at Tring and Leyden Museum. — Dedicated to the late A. Sidney Olliff.

3. *Helota Jordanii*, n. sp. ♂ and ♀.

Very closely allied to and strongly resembling *Helota Bretaudeaui* Rits. [1]), from Kurseong (Darjeeling), but differentiated in the male sex by the shorter and broader toothlike appendage on the inside of the apical half of the anterior tibiae.

Length 8—9 mm. — Narrow and elongate, shining, above metallic green with coppery tinges, the antennae pale testaceous with the club more or less infuscate; each elytron with two flavous spots which are surrounded with dark purple and which are placed between the 3rd and 7th striae [1]. — Underneath the head (the middle of the throat excepted), the lateral portions of the pronotum and the elytral folds are golden green, the rest of the body testaceous; the legs are testaceous with the apex of the femora and the basal half of the tibiae metallic green; the tarsi are brown, the basal half of the claw-joint, however, is pale testaceous.

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[1]) Notes from the Leyden Museum, vol. XVI, 1894, p. 116.

The head is deeply and densely punctured, the punctures on the middle are larger and wider apart.

The prothorax narrows slightly in straight lines towards the front margin which is straight; the anterior angles are broadly rounded, not at all prominent; the base is deeply bisinuate, the lateral angles acute. The upper surface is regularly densely covered with large deep punctures, an elongate smooth space, however, is present in front of the scutellum.

The elytra are slightly narrowing in straight lines towards the apices; each elytron is provided with ten regular striae of punctures which become larger towards the sides; the interspaces are more or less costate at the end, especially the 3rd and 9th.

The undersurface is apparently impunctate with the exception of the head and the metallic lateral portions of the posternum.

♂. Anterior tibiae slightly curved and with a notch on the inside about the middle; this notch is accompanied by a broad flat tooth which has the shape of a curved triangle; the margins of the tooth as well as the enlarged space between the tooth and the apex of the tibia are fringed with long soft colourless hairs; the basal joints of the

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[1] In one of the 28 examples before me (a female), the posterior elytral spot is situated between the 3rd and 8th striae.

anterior tarsi are slightly enlarged and covered on their undersurface with long colourless hairs. The intermediate tibiae are slightly curved, the posterior ones somewhat waved and provided on the inside of the apical half with a raised black line which terminates at some distance from the apex in a very minute tooth; the space between this tooth and the apex is finely pubescent. The apical ventral segment is truncate posteriorly. The apices of the elytra are subtruncate in a somewhat oblique direction.

♀. Legs simple. Apical ventral segment more narrowly truncate than in the male and more or less distinctly flattened along the middle. The apices of the elytra slightly prolonged, narrower than in the male, subacuminate, and obliquely truncate between the 3rd interstice and the suture.

Hab. Khasia Hills (Assam). — Zoological Museum at Tring and Leyden Museum. — Dedicated to Dr. K. Jordan.

Leyden Museum, January 1899.